

ister is in a position to clarify the situation or confirm that these benefits are payable to these workers.

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, my first impression is that they would not be denied benefits, but I should like, with respect, to have the opportunity to examine the hon. member's question and give him an answer at the earliest possible date.

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[Translation]

FINANCE

REQUEST FOR REMOVAL OF TAX ON PLEASURE BOATS

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Finance.

In the recent budget speech, he has announced a 10 per cent surtax on pleasure craft with 20 or more horsepower engine. This measure seriously affects that industry which, on the one hand, has been subsidized to create jobs and which, on the other, sees the price of its craft increased to a prohibitive level, even though they consume very little gas. Has the Minister of Finance received representations from craft manufacturing companies all across the country and, if so, how well has he received their representations that he merely abolish that tax?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): The answer is yes, Mr. Speaker. I think we will consider the representations from those companies. We still may discuss this question in the House, in committee of the whole, when we will consider the bill.

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[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

IMPRESSION CREATED BY PRIME MINISTER DURING MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FORD

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. Before I ask it I am sure I speak for all members of the House when I say we wish him well on his very important visit to Washington tomorrow.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Hees: In view of the very short space of time that is allotted to the very important discussions that will take place between the new United States President and the Prime Minister, does he feel confident that he will be able to create the good impression which is so vital at the present time which was so startlingly absent during the President's last visit to Ottawa?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): The hon. member will realize why it is not possible to spend more time with the President if he recalls the motion made by the House Leader of the New Democratic Party. I am pressed to go on to Winnipeg as soon as possible, but I will

Oral Questions

do my best in the short time I will have with the President.

Mr. Hees: I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker. In the short time he has during his conversation, if the Prime Minister begins to get the feeling that criticism will be unavoidable will he do his very best to have himself compared to a more lofty portion of his anatomy than was the case the last time.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I know the hon. member is interested in literary matters and I would refer him to the Dictionary of American Slang where he will see that I came out of this as a very good friend.

Mr. Hees: Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege, I think the Prime Minister was referring to the fact that he had said earlier, and said again today, that I do not know the difference between a hole in the ground and razzmataz. It is a very serious charge against a member of parliament and therefore I looked up the definition of both terms in both French and English dictionaries. The best definition by far of "hole in the ground" is given in the French dictionary as follows: "hole in the ground or water hole—un trou d'eau". The word razzmataz—very important in this case—is not listed in the French dictionary, but in the English dictionary the definition reads: "razzmataz, what Nixon described Trudeau as".

● (1450)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Hees: It is obvious to all hon. members that there is no difference between the two expressions.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Hees: Let us see him match that.

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, in view of this enlightening information I would now amend my earlier statement to say that the hon. member does not see the difference between a hole in the ground and a hole in his head.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Hees: New writers are needed.

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FISHERIES

INVESTIGATION OF ICNAF QUOTA VIOLATIONS—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State (Fisheries). At a press conference in Newfoundland last week the minister announced that the RCN destroyer *Annapolis* had left the previous day to do patrol work off the northeast coast of Newfoundland and Labrador and would do on-board inspection of foreign ships fishing in that area. Can the minister tell the House how many ships have been boarded, if it was found that some of the foreign ships are